

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	Group Art Unit:
Toru TAKAYAMA et al.)	Examiner:
Serial No. 10/697,941)	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is
Filed: October 31, 2003)	being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class
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		7-202 1112

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant submits herewith a Form PTO-1449 listing references known to Applicant and requests that these references be made of record in the above identified application. Copies of the references listed are submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a).

Copies of U.S. patents and U.S. publications are not enclosed in accordance with the Notice published in the Official Gazette on August 5, 2003 entitled *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003*, which waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. publication.

U.S. Patent Nos. 5,347,154; 5,486,708; 5,572,045; 5,618,739; and 5,728,591 are in the family of EP 0 486 318.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits; therefore, no fee is required.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, 1.20(a), 1.20(b), 1.20(c), and 1.20(d) (except the Issue Fee) which may be required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO	Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Application Number	10/697,941
CTATEMENT DY A DOLLO AND	Filing Date	October 31, 2003
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) MAY 0 7 2004	First Named Inventor	Toru TAKAYAMA et al.
	Group Art Unit	
12 204 4/	Examiner Name	
Sheet 1	Attorney Docket Number	0756-7215

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document Number Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		(if known)			
		5,347,154	Takahashi et al.	09/13/1994	
		5,486,708	Takahashi et al.	01/23/1996	
		5,572,045	Takahashi et al.	11/05/1996	
		5,618,739	Takahashi et al.	04/08/1997	
		5,728,591	Takahashi et al.	03/17/1998	
		2001/0055854	Nishida et al.	12/27/2001	
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			F	OREIGN PATENT DOC	UMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant	
		Office ³ Num	Kind Code ³ Number ⁴ (if known)	Applicant of Cited Document	MM-DD-YYYY	Figures Appear	T ⁶
		EP	0 486 318		05/20/1992	•	Eng.
		EP	0 858 110		08/12/1998		Eng
		JР	11-243209		09/07/1999		Abst.
		JР	2001-051296		02/23/2001		Abst.
		JР	2001-217443		08/10/2001		Abst.
		JР	2002-184959		06/28/2002		Abst.
			OTHER PRIOR	ART – NON PATENT LITE	RATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.)., date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T²		
		Inte	rnational Search Repo	rt, Application No. PC	CT/JP03/13553, Febr	uary 10, 2004	

Examiner	 Date	
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.